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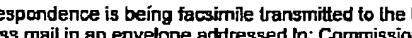
PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>		Application Number	10/602,927
		Filing Date	June 24, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Jean MERRILL et al.
		Art Unit	1646
		Examiner Name	XIE, Xiaozhen
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	USA2001/0172 US NP

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	sanofi-aventis Inc. LLC		
Signature			
Printed name	Xuhong Sunny Wang		
Date	March 08, 2006	Reg. No.	54,524

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
<p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: (USPTO FAX NO. <u>571-278-8300</u> ; Total No. of Pages Transmilled: <u>7</u>)</p>			
Signature			
Typed or printed name	Delia Coughlin	Date	<u>March 8, 2006</u>

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re Application of
J. Merrill et al.

Examiner: X. Xie

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Application No.: 10/602,927

Art Unit: 1646

MAR 08 2006

Filed: June 24, 2003

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*Julia Conagher***RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Communication dated February 9, 2006, setting forth a requirement for restriction in the above-referenced application, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse and amendment, Group II, claims 7-13. As amended, Claim 7, the independent claim of Group II, depends from Claim 1, the independent claim of Group I. Thus, Groups I and Group II are properly examined together. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

Please amend the Claims as set forth in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Please enter and consider the Remarks beginning on page 6 of this paper.